



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
OFFICE OF RADIATION PROGRAMS-LAS VEGAS FACILITY**

P.O. BOX 18416, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA 89114-5027 • 702/798-2100 (FTS 545-2100)

RECEIVED
1/3/84

KJS

DEC 22 1983

Ron J. Solimon, Legal Assistant
Pueblo of Laguna
P.O. Box 194
Laguna, New Mexico 87026

Confidential Claim Retracted

Authorized by: SC

Date: 6/12/13

Dear Mr. Solimon:

In addition to my comments to Mr. Aragon, concerning radon levels in Pagate, I suggest you consider developing your own radon, radon daughter, and gamma measurement capability. Perhaps you have a sanitarian, a fireman, a policeman, or a teacher who would be interested in being your "radiation control officer." You now have questions about radiation which will continue throughout reclamation of the Jackpile Mine as well as post-reclamation. The basic instruments listed below are examples of the current types used to monitor naturally-occurring radiation, (i.e., uranium decay products) and would be useful to you for ten or more years. Mention of trade names does not imply endorsement of that particular company's products but will give you a starting point for researching what is available and how it works. We at the Las Vegas ORP Laboratory will happily assist you in learning how to operate and calibrate your equipment.

RGM-2, Radon Gas Monitor, made by Eberline Instrument Company in Santa Fe is a device for measuring radon in real time with direct readout. It costs \$8,800. Their phone number is (505) 471-3232.

Terradex Corporation makes a radon monitoring device which is the size of an 8-ounce drinking cup and totally passive. They assess the amount of radon the cup has been exposed to. Each cup costs \$33.00, including readout, for an application such as you would have in Pagate. Terradex is located in Walnut Creek, California. Their phone number is (415) 938-2545. The Track Etch® device is a single use device and we feel about eight cups per year are required to assess radon levels in each house - one pair replaced quarterly.

EDA of Wheat Ridge, Colorado makes a Working Level Monitor for the purpose of sampling radon daughters and calculating the working level, a unit of deposited energy, which relates more directly to health risk than does radon. This unit costs about \$7,550.00. With the cups mentioned above, you should make a number of working level or equilibrium measurements in each structure monitored over a year's time. EDA's phone number is (303) 422-9112, or you may write EDA Instruments, Inc., 5151 Ward Road, Wheat Ridge, Colorado 80033.

Many companies make gamma survey instruments. Eberline and Ludlum, (505) 471-3232 and (915) 235-5494, Sweetwater, Texas each make good microRoentgen per hour survey meters. Eberline's PRM-7 costs about \$1,200. and Ludlum's Model 19 costs about \$845. These instruments will detect gamma rays which will not be detected by the instruments above. Likewise, the radon and radon daughter instruments are not useful for area gamma measurements.

CONFIDENTIAL



9387872

POL-EPA01-0000680

If you agree with this approach, we will assist you in gathering information, selecting what we feel you will find useful, and in learning to properly handle the equipment.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Wayne A. Bliss".

Wayne A. Bliss
Director
Office of Radiation Programs-LVF

cc:
Glen Sjoblom (ANR-458)
Bob Siek (CERT)